MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 JUNE 1982

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Military Situation -- Iraqi aircraft raided Khark Island and the Tabriz refinery on 30 May, scoring effective hits and inflicting losses, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement carried by INA. Noting that the attack was in retaliation for Iranian shelling of Panjwin and civilian installations in Basrah, he warned the Iranians that Iraq will deal two blows for each Iranian blow against Iraqi civilian targets and also warned all vessels and cargo ships against docking at Khark Island. INA said several piers at the island's docks were damaged in the raid and Iran has informed tanker owners that loading operations have been stopped. The Iraqis also shelled Gilan-e Gharb on 31 May, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio. An earlier Iraqi communique broadcast by the radio had cautioned the Iranians that further shelling of Iraqi civilian areas would lead to Iraqi retaliatory strikes against Iranian civilian installations. It also said Iraqi aircraft launched raids against Iranian troop concentrations west of the Karun River on 28 May. One Iraqi plane was downed, the communique admitted. Meanwhile, Iranian communiques carried by Tehran radio claimed that two Iraqi planes were shot down near Abadan on 28 May and that another aircraft was downed in the same area on 30 May. Iranian and Iraqi forces exchanged fire across the Shatt al-'Arab, the communiques said, and Iranian irregulars penetrated Iraqi positions in the Sumar-Naftshahr region to launch a surprise attack. On 30 May exchanges of fire were most intense in the Shalamcheh area, according to another communique.

Iranian War Aims -- If the Ba'th Party remains in power in Iraq, or even if another element of either East or West replaces the present regime, Iran will press for reparations until the last penny, will press for the repatriation of Iraqi refugees in Iran and will insist on trying the person responsible for Iraq's aggression, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani stressed in a 28 May speech at Tehran University broadcast by Tehran radio. However, if an Islamic and people's regime were to come to power in Iraq, Iran would not be concerned with money and war damages, he said, and might even help the Iraqi people. Indicating that Iran will reject any U.S.-inspired call by the United Nations for an unconditional cease-fire, the Majlis speaker said the Iraqis still control Iranian territory in Khuzestan, Shush, Takyeh, Naftshahr, Qasr-e Shirin and elsewhere. The Iranians have a big job ahead of them to expel the Iraqis from these territories, he pointed out. While Iran does not seek territorial gain, he said, the United States, President Saddam Husayn and the Arabs should not imagine they will be able to hold Iran behind its borders through diplomatic means. However, he denied that Iran plans to threaten Gulf oil, saying the Islamic Republic is not adventurous and does not wish to cut off oil supplies.

The Tehran paper AZADEGAN meanwhile stressed that the war can end only when Saddam Husayn falls from power. In a 29 May editorial reported by AFP, AZADEGAN proposed that Iran move 50 km into Iraq in order to silence artillery positions targeted on Iran, cut all land, air and sea supply routes to the Baghdad regime, seize all Iraq's military airbases so that the Iraqis can no longer bomb Iran. The Iraqi people could then choose the regime they want through free elections, the paper concluded.

In a similar vein, Tehran radio's Turkish service said that after expelling the Iraqis from its territory, Iran must continue the war until it attains a position from which it can protect its territory from Iraqi shelling and missiles.

When asked in a Tehran radio interview whether Iranian forces will cross the Iraqi border, Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said Iran will do everything necessary to defend itself. He reaffirmed that the Iranians cannot stop their efforts as long as the current regime persists in Iraq. Stressing that the victory of Khorramshahr was not a territorial victory but rather the victory of Islam over blasphemy, Musavi said Iran possesses no great military or financial power but its "great lever" is Islam.

Iraqi Comment -- In a series of meetings with Iraqi commanders over a 5-day period, President Saddam Husayn stressed that the new development in the southern battlefield calls for a high level of preparedness to fight the enemy and foil its aggressive intentions, INA reported. INA's political commentator asserted that the Iraqis are capable of dealing violent and harmful blows to the Iranians and can influence the course of battle with a renewed spirit and with methods that can wreck Iran's war machine.

GCC Stand on War -- During meetings in Riyadh on 30-31 May, GCC foreign ministers reviewed the belief that achieving a unified Arab stand is an essential factor in putting an end to the Iran-Iraq war, the GCC Ministerial Council announced in a statement broadcast by Riyadh radio. Asserting that Iraq's willingness to withdraw to international boundaries provides an increasing opportunity to find a negotiated solution to the war in a manner that ensures the legitimate rights of both sides, the statement called on Iran to respond to attempts to end the war. Current circumstances necessitate intensified efforts to mediate in the dispute, the statement said, and the council has adopted resolutions to support the efforts of the Islamic Conference Organization, the nonaligned countries and the United Nations.

Before the GCC meeting, a Riyadh radio commentary stressed that issues dividing the Arab world should not be frozen but settled according to the view of the majority, Kuwait's ARAB TIMES reported. Interpreting this as a call for a go-it-alone policy by conservative Arab governments, the ARAB TIMES said the commentary strengthened the impression that the Saudi foreign minister's recent talks with Syria and Algeria failed to bring the radical and conservative Arab camps any closer.

Soviet, Syrian Support for Iran -- The GCC states possess confirmed information that the Soviet Union has supplied Iran with large quantities of military equipment along with military experts in addition to experts from Cuba and the GDR, Monte Carlo radio reported. These supplies began 6 months ago and have recently been stepped up, causing great concern to the GCC, the radio said. Noting that the GCC is also concerned about Syria's stand, the radio said the Syrians have supplied Iran with about 350 Soviet-made tanks. Syria and Libya have promised Iran 650 tanks, it claimed.

Jordanian Support for Iraq -- Kuwait's AL-QABAS reported that Jordan has supplied Iraq with sophisticated long-range 155-mm artillery batteries. AL-QABAS also said King Husayn is considering replacing the current cabinet with a new government headed by the armed forces commander in order to meet the latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

King Husayn met in Amman with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal on 31 May, Amman television noted. Al-Faysal delivered a message from King Khalid and briefed Husayn on the results of the GCC meeting; Husayn stressed the importance of ending the war by preserving Iraq's national rights.

Egyptian Stand -- President Husni Mubarak called on Iran and Iraq to end the war immediately and without preconditions prior to reaching a just settlement of their differences, according to a 1 June interview he gave to AL-AHRAM as reported by MENA. Further escalation of tension will encourage foreign powers to exploit the situation, he warned. According to Cairo radio, the war and its effect on the security of states in the area was the subject of a 31 May meeting between Mubarak and members of the National Democratic Party's Political Bureau. Earlier, during their 3-day visit to Israel as guests of the Labor Party, former Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali reaffirmed that Egypt does not intend to send soldiers to fight alongside Iraq on the Iranian front, ITIM reported. Egypt did not reject Iraq's request for help, Khalil said; it will help in finding a peaceful solution. "Our contribution will be for peace and not by intervening in a war," he added. MENA noted that an official Egyptian source denied Libyan allegations that Egypt has sent 35,000 military technicians to Iraq.

European Initiatives -- During his 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson spoke on a new French initiative to end the Iran-Iraq war, SPA reported on 29 May. An Italian Foreign Ministry statement subsequently announced that Italy is ready to mediate between Iran and Iraq, according to a 31 May AFP report.

Alleged Syrian Violation of Iraqi Airspace

A Syrian fighter plane violated Iraqi airspace on 30 May, penetrating 30 km, as far as Al-Qa'im, an Iraqi military source announced in a statement reported by INA.

However, a Syrian official source denied the Iraqi claim, Damascus radio reported. He said the Iraqi statement contains the lies and fabrications that are heard from Iraq every time the Iraqi "executioner" suffers a military, moral or political defeat.

Iran

Security Situation -- Revolution guards staged further operations against the Mojahedin-e Khalq in Tehran, according to a 30 May Islamic Revolution Committee statement broadcast by Tehran radio. Guards uncovered two hideouts, arresting five Mojahedin and killing two others, the statement said, and also killed three Mojahedin in street clashes. According to a related Guards Corps statement carried by the radio, 'Aliyeh Bazargan was among those captured or killed. However, the Majahedin-e Khalq leadership in Paris said she was executed last year, according to the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio. The radio also said dozens of guards were killed in the Tehran street clashes.

Cabinet Changes -- The Majlis approved Behzad Nabavi as minister for heavy industry and Gholamreza Aqazadeh to replace him as minister of state for executive affairs, Tehran radio reported. In a speech supporting Nabavi's appointment, Prime Minister Musavi criticized those who describe any steps taken in favor of the deprived as "communism." He assured the Majlis that there is no room in the Cabinet for any tendency toward the right or the left.

Egypt

Following a meeting between President Mubarak and PRC special envoy He Ying, the envoy announced that the Egyptian president had accepted an invitation to visit the PRC, MENA reported. According to the envoy, no date has been set for the visit.

Saudi Arabia

A Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Riyadh radio announced that in view of Costa Rica's decision to move its embassy in Israel to "occupied" Jerusalem, Saudi Arabia has decided to immediately sever all diplomatic and economic relations with Costa Rica.

Israel

Arms Sale, Sharon U.S. Visit -- Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon disclosed that the United States had been aware of Israeli arms shipments to Iran and had agreed to them, Jerusalem radio reported. He added that contacts on this matter were held at various times and noted that the arms sales involved a very small quantity of equipment, the radio reported. According to a later radio report, Sharon claimed that the arms sales had been discussed at the highest levels by Israel and the United States and that the matter had been kept secret for months. Sharon maintained that the disclosure of this information came from sources close to the U.S. authorities. He said that while on his visit to the United States a similar attempt was made to blame Israel for supplying weapons to Argentina. Sharon said under no circumstances could anybody be permitted to use these accusations as a justification for providing massive supplies of weapons to the Arab countries.

Commenting on his talks in Washington upon his return to Israel, Sharon said he believed he had succeeded in outlining Israel's clear positions regarding Israel's unwillingness to accept Palestinian terrorism as a way of life, IDF radio reported. Speaking at a congress of IDF disabled, Sharon said he had explained to the United States that Israel would not accept efforts to restrict Israel's freedom of action with regard to PLO terrorist acts, Jerusalem radio reported. With regard to the issue of arms sales to Jordan, Sharon said the incorporation of long-range Jordanian artillery under the protection of modern antiaircraft missiles in the system confronting Israel is a certain format for war. He added that it is inconceivable that Jerusalem or Israel's main airbases should be under the control of antiaircraft missiles made in the United States or anywhere else.

In another report dealing with Sharon's U.S. visit, the radio said his talks with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger were conducted in a "harsh" atmosphere. According to the radio, Weinberger did not rule out the possibility that the United States will adopt sanctions against Israel in the future if it harms U.S. interests. In Sharon's talks with Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Haig warned against Israel becoming entangled in Lebanon and said the United States will determine its position toward Israel's antiterrorist action according to the degree of the terrorist provocation, the radio reported.

'Ali Visit -- Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will visit Jerusalem on 2 June to deliver an urgent letter from President Mubarak to Prime Minister Menahem Begin, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio speculated that the letter may be connected with the possibility of convening a summit in Washington in the middle of June to discuss ways of resuming the autonomy talks.

Eytan Remarks -- Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan delcared in a speech to religious students in Tiberias that only through a military strike can Israel being to an end the situation in which terrorists in Lebanon continue to vex Israel, Jerusalem radio reported. He pointed out that a smashing military blow would enable Israel to conduct negotiations on its own terms.

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SPOKESMAN DESCRIBES GANDHI LETTER TO HAQ

BK311252 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has sent a letter to Pakistan President Gen Ziaul Haq. It is being taken to Islamabad by Secretary in the External Affairs Ministry Natwar Singh. He is scheduled to hand over the letter to the Pakistan president later this evening.

The content of the letter has not been disclosed, but an official spokesman said in New Delhi today that it deals with all matters pertaining to Indo-Pakistan relations. He said the letter will be a contribution to a continuing dialogue between India and Pakistan. The spokesman added that while handing over the letter, Natwar Singh will convey to the Pakistan president India's good wishes and our desire for friendship with Pakistan.

ASH-SHARIQAH RULER BEGINS STATE VISIT 27 MAY

BK271311 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] The ruler of Ash-Shariqah, Shaykh ibn Sultan Muhammad al-Qasimi, was accorded a warm and ceremonial welcome when he arrived in New Delhi this evening on a 12-day state visit. He was received by Vice President Hidayatullah. Among others who were at the airport to greet the distinguished visitor were several Cabinet ministers, high-ranking civil and military officials and members of the diplomatic corps.

Hidayatullah Addresses Banquet

BK290719 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] India and the United Arab Emirates have pledged to work for world peace and strengthen cooperation between them. Speaking at a banquet given in honor of the visiting ruler of Ash-Shariqah, Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, in New Delhi last night, Vice President Hidayatullah said the two countries and also others in the region should strive for peace and widen the area of friendship and cooperation. He said only in such an atmosphere will we be able to devote our energy and resources to the vitally needed tasks of economic development. Referring to Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi's visit to Ash-Shariqah last year, the vice president said that India looks forward to exchanges of more high-level visits between the two countries.

Meeting With Gandhi

BK291244 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Visiting ruler of Ash-Shariqah Shaykh al-Qasimi had a brief exchange of views with Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi in New Delhi today. They discussed mainly bilateral matters. Mrs Gandhi hosted a lunch in honor of him. This morning Shaykh al-Qasimi went round the Indian agricultural research institute.

PILOTS, PLANE HELD PENDING CLARIFICATIONS

BK261627 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] India has asked the Bangladesh and Canadian authorities to sort out the matter relating to two Canadian pilots who flew into Calcutta yesterday from Dacca in a small aircraft. The pilots and the plane are being kept at Calcutta airport pending clarifications. The External Affairs Ministry spokesman said India will abide by whatever decision the Bangladesh and Canadian Governments take in the matter. He said the pilots were detained because they landed without valid documents.

HAQ RECEIVES GANDHI LETTER ON RELATIONS

BK311530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Indian Foreign Secretary Natwar Singh, who arrived in Islamabad this afternoon, has handed over a message from Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi to President Mohammad Ziaul Haq a short while ago.

Earlier, Foreign Secretary Riaz Piracha welcomed Natwar Singh at Islamabad airport. He did not disclose any details of the message to the radio Pakistan representative. However, All-India radio, quoting an official spokesman, reported that the message related to all aspects of India-Pakistan relations.

Talks With India To Resume

BK011020 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] In Islamabad today, Secretary General of Foreign Affairs S. Shahnawaz and visiting Indian Secretary for External Affairs Natwar Singh discussed a variety of subjects relating to bilateral and regional matters. The talks, which continued for 1 and 1/2 hours, were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and frankness.

It was decided at the talks that discussions will be resumed on the basis of understanding reached between the foreign ministers of Pakistan and India in New Delhi in February last.

AMENDMENT TO NONALIGNED COMMUNIQUE SOUGHT

BK311042 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Pakistan has moved a formal amendment to a draft communique circulated by Cuba which will be issued at the end of the ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement in Havana. The amendment seeks to strengthen the call for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, quoting informed sources in Havana, says that Pakistan's ambassador at the United Nations, Niaz A. Naik, met a number of like-minded delegations to mobilize support for improving the language of the communique so that it seeks an integrated solution of the Afghan crisis. The Cuban draft falls short of the communique issued by the New Delhi foreign minister conference of the nonaligned in February last as it does not emphasize the need for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan.

Senior officials of the nonaligned countries are meeting tonight to prepare for the meeting of the bureau. The Afghanistan crisis is one of the important issues which is likely to come up at the meeting. Personal representative of the UN secretary general to Afghanistan Diego Cordovez is also arriving in the Cuban capital tonight. He is likely to have preliminary contacts with the foreign ministers of Pakistan, Iran and the Kabul regime in preparation for the Geneva talks.

YAQUB KHAN ON UPCOMING HAVANA NONALIGNED MEETING

BK300728 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Pakistan will work for a declaration to uphold strictly the fundamental principles of the Nonaligned Movement at the forthcoming meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement in Havana. This was stated by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in an interview before his departure for Havana.

He said the meeting, beginning from Monday [31 May], would give Pakistan an opportunity to demonstrate its adherence to the fundamental principles of nonalignment.

The foreign minister hoped that the Iran-Iraq war would also figure at the 5-day meeting and Pakistan would make efforts to help find a solution.

Departs for Cuba

BK290648 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has left for Havana to attend the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau's ministerial-level meeting which begins the first week of June. During his stay in the Cuban capital, he will call on the foreign ministers of a number of countries and discuss with them current international affairs, especially the current situation in the region. He will also discuss topics which are likely to be debated in the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau's ministerial-level meeting.

DPRK'S KIM IL STOPS OVER IN ISLAMABAD

BK281723 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] DPRK Vice President Kim Il has expressed hope that the friendly relations and mutual cooperation between Pakistan and the DPRK would further improve with the passage of time. He made this observation this morning during an informal talk with Local Government and Rural Development Minister Fakr Imam during his brief stay at the Islamabad airport on his way to Romania.

Kim said that the DPRK highly appreciated the pace of reconstruction of the Pakistani society under the leadership of President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq. Pakistan's progress in the field of agriculture, especially achieving self-sufficiency in wheat, is really praiseworthy.

He said his country anxiously awaited President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq's visit, which will further strengthen existing friendly ties between the two countries. In fact, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's visit will prove to be a milestone in the traditional friendship between the two countries. He said that he had brought a message of best wishes from the president and the people of the DPRK for the president and the people of Pakistan.

MINISTER COMMENTS ON LAW, ORDER SITUATION

BK271533 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpt] Federal Interior Minister Mahmud A. Haroon has said that the overall law and order situation in the country is very satisfactory. However, certain facts reveal that some elements intend to worsen the situation. He stated that the government will take the necessary steps to protect the lives and property of the people.

On arrival at Quetta this afternoon, he told newsmen that about 400 persons in the country have been arrested on charges of terrorism; cases against 39 persons have been registered and investigations of the rest are in progress. Cases against nine have begun.

In reply to a question he said that the number of political detainees in the country is only 16.

RAFSANJANI REJECTS CEASE-FIRE PROPOSAL

LD281326 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 May 82

[Speech by Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, acting Friday imam of Tehran, at Tehran University on 28 May -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Even if I and people like me agree to a cease-fire, even if the Supreme Defense Council agrees, those who are here and those whose sons and brothers are at the war fronts and realize the price we have paid for retaking the occupied territory, these people will not listen to our words. Both Saddam and the United States should know this. Our government is a people's government with whom the decision rests. However, what are we going to do? You, the United States, if you were in our place what would you do? You, Saddam, what would you do if you were in our place? We have given so many victims, we have suffered and sustained so much damage, so many refugees. Now you think we should remain behind the frontier line and say we have demarcated a geographical frontier. We will not move away from it you may (?go with our best wishes). No, this is not the way to go about it. You are still on our territory. You are still in Khuzestan, in the nethermost part of the southwest of our country, a triangular portion is still in their possession. From Shalamcheh to the Arvand Rud, a strip of land is in their hands. They have to leave this area. The Iraqis still control a strip of land in Shush, in Takyeh and in Naftshahr from where they have taken our oil to Baghdad, the same oil which used to be refined at the Kermanshah refinery. The Iraqis are still holding Qasr-e Shirin. Many other places are still in Iraqi hands. We have a big job ahead of us to expel the Iraqis from these territories.

Against this background, the United States, Saddam and the Arabs should not deceive themselves by saying that they will embark on a policy of holding Iran behind its frontier through diplomatic means. We did say that we are not in need of territorial gains. Our territory is both vast and rich, yet that does not mean that we will ignore our right. Even if we ignore our right God Almighty will not.

If an Islamic and people's regime were to come to power in Baghdad that would be another matter. We are not concerned with money and war damage. If we see in our region that the Iraqi people, 99 percent of which are Muslim, have formed their own Islamic regime, then there is every possibility that we will even help them further. Under such circumstances the situation would be different. Yet, if the Ba'th Party remains, even without Saddam -- because if they are going to remove Saddam and bring into power another Zionist element the situation would not change as far as we are concerned -- if the Ba'th Party remains in power, or even if another element of either East or West replaces the present regime, then we don't want territory but we will press for reparation until the last penny. We will press for the return of the Iraqi refugees in Iran, to the last man, and insist on trying the person responsible for this aggression.

However, the United States is free to say and to analyze the situation in any manner it wishes. To say that the oil from this region is being threatened, I wish to point out that the Islamic Republic of Iran is not adventurous. The Islamic Republic of Iran realizes that the oil is essential for the world's economy today and it does not want the oil cut. The Islamic Republic of Iran is a supporter of the cause of justice. In this region we are in greater need of security than the Gulf shaykhs. The security which we will maintain will stop others who want to violate it.

They have made a lot of noise that the United States is trying to convene a meeting of the UN Security Council to submit a cease-fire proposal. Well, they are free to do whatever they wish, that United Nations and that Security Council. Let the Security Council once again bring disgrace upon itself. How can an organization such as the Security Council and a few supposedly wise persons call upon a country, thousands of kilometers of whose land, more than a thousand of its villages, more than ten of its cities have been under occupation for 20 months, which has sustained so much damage, given so many martyrs, a country which has been under oppression and has had its factories closed, to accept an unconditional cease-fire? What does it know about Iran? We are happy and we are waiting for the United Nations to fire the last mercy bullet at itself so that we can tell the world that the United Nations is of no use and is more of an oppressor than the United States.

The United States, Israel and the reactionaries, all and everyone, should realize that a nation which is witnessing victory every hour, every day and every week will not be deceived, fooled or forced away from what it believes.

AFP Report

NC281212 Paris AFP in English 1158 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 28 May (AFP) -- Parliament President Hashemi-Rafsanjani today hinted that Iranian forces might invade Iraq following their successful offensive in Khuzestan.

At Friday prayers here, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani, who is a member of the Supreme Defence Council, said "Do you believe that we will stay put at the border -- a geographical line -- and that we will say 'give us war compensation', that is impossible."

"When we have driven out the Iraqis still on our territory, no one in the world should believe that Iran can be kept inside its border by diplomatic means," he said.

"We have already said that we have no need of land, but we will not renounce our rights. If Baghdad sets up a popular Islamic state, this will put the issue in a new light. Compensation would not be important to us.

"If we see that the Iraqi people, at our side, are prepared to set up this state of their own free will, then it is even possible we will help them. But if the Ba'th Party or any other puppet of East or West were to take power, we, though we want no land, would seize our compensation by force," he said.

The Defence Council is responsible for assigning the objectives to Iranian forces in the field.

MAJLIS REPORTEDLY TO DISCUSS EXPANSION OF WAR

PM280707 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 May 82 p 1

[Nasir ash-Shari report: "Tehran: Majlis To Study Question of Crossing Borders"]

[Excerpt] Jidda -- ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that the Iranian Majlis will decide later this week on the possibility of escalating the fighting against Iraq with a view to penetrating the international borders between the two countries and advancing into Iraqi territory.

However, an official Iranian Foreign Ministry source, who confirmed this report to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT yesterday, said: "There is opposition to such a decision and some officials believe that Iran should stop at its borders and be satisfied with retrieving its lands."

He added: In the meantime, the atmosphere with regard to the Good Offices efforts "has become more suitable than ever before."

On the level of the Islamic efforts, members of the Islamic Good Offices Committee will meet in Jidda next week to discuss the situation in the light of recent developments.

Sources at the General Secretariat of the Islamic Conference Organization have told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that Habib Chatti will return from Ankara to Jidda in order to hold intensive contacts in this regard.

In the meantime, preparations are being made to pursue a new course in the committee's work in the light of the recent developments with a view to exploiting the opportunity to bring about reconciliation between the two countries.

MUSAVI VIEWS EFFECTS OF KHORRAMSHAHR VICTORY

LD312310 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0750 GMT 31 May 82

[Interview granted by Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi -- date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] As you are aware, Saddam always explained away his defeats by saying that he still held the main key to victory, Khorramshahr. Now that we have captured Khorramshahr and have reached the border, is there a possibility that we will cross over into Iraqi territory? What will the result of these developments be in general?

[Answer] We are justified in doing everything possible to safeguard the Islamic Republic. We will do everything necessary to defend ourselves. Defense is an integral part of our beliefs. All our decisions are made around this axis; this in itself depends on different conditions. At each point, each place and location, if we feel the need for action to defend ourselves, then we will no doubt do so.

Regarding the first part of your question, referring to the fact that now Iraq has lost Khorramshahr and what would their next move be, I would say that according to reports I have received during the past few days and my discussion with [words indistinct] they are encouraging the bankrupt issue which they used to rely on before and which has never been successful -- that is, the issue of emphasising the question of Arabism as opposed to Islam.

Of course, in the Ba'thist ideology, the question of nationalism is very important. Pan-Arabism became an ideology. Up to now, Saddam has done everything in his power to present his country's war with our country as a war between Arabs and Iranians. During the past 2 years, this policy does not seem to have had much success although nationalist slogans were used profusely. This in itself would create great tension in Arab countries and would speed up the movement toward Islam. What is related to Saddam here is that his regime's propaganda machinery still rely on these bankrupt slogans. This has recently intensified. The question of defending Arab land has been put forward, claiming that Arab countries are threatened and Arab land is endangered by the threat of Iran's aggression. Saddam is trying to raise the Arab nations and the Iraqi nation against our revolution. We think that the revolution of the Muslim nation of Iraq has suffered so much from Saddam's regime that it will not be deceived by these slogans.

[Question] How will the liberation of Khorramshahr affect the region and the world?

[Answer] The effects of this victory will soon manifest themselves; the effects are very deep and one is unable to evaluate them with regard to different countries. What is important and what many countries feel threatened by is that once again Islam has become victorious, using its own equipment and its own force and logic.

This can give the Muslim nations great hope. Each oppressed person is beginning to think that by relying on his beliefs and Islam, he will be able to crush the existing oppression and smash oppressive regimes. This is a great potential force which is becoming closer to actuality after the victory of Khorramshahr.

All over the world large countries use many tales in order to justify the implementation of their foreign policy. We, in our relations with foreign countries, are not privileged with such tales; we have nothing; we have neither great financial power nor a large quantity of arms. We do not have expert diplomats who can gather in a foreign country 40 to 50 at a time and begin wheeling and dealing, establishing contacts which might not, in our view, be in accordance with our religion. The lever we have which other countries do not have is the power of the Islamic revolution, the love of the oppressed in the Islamic revolution and their hope in becoming victorious.

If our Islamic revolution succeeds in reviving among the oppressed the hope for a better life and teaches them that they are capable of ruling over their own destiny, giving them hope that despite oppression they can return to their own brilliant humane nature, to Islam, this hope and this wish can become the great lever for us in the world. If you consider the Muslim countries and nations, most of the governments are hostile toward us. Why do they not show their hostility and stand in front of us? What stops them? What, for example, stops Egypt or other countries from bombing us with their planes is the interest and affection of the oppressed Muslim masses of Egypt toward our country. We are using this limitless force to establish the rule of Islam in the world.

The victory of Khorramshahr is reviving these hopes and wishes, heightening them and mobilizing the people. It is certainly because of this that we will witness a fundamental upheaval in Muslim countries. The victory of Khorramshahr is in no way a territorial victory. The effects are not limited to one country. This is not the case since this war with Saddam's regime has become very symbolic among the countries of the region and Muslim countries -- a war between Islam and blasphemy. Therefore, this victory is the victory of Islam over blasphemy and, no doubt this victory will heighten Islamic liberation movements. We are very happy about this. We have always said that if there are regimes in the region which are just and popular they should rejoice in this victory and not be saddened. But this great movement will, no doubt, destroy or at least weaken all powers subservient to worldwide oppression.

The more immediate effects, I think, will be reflected on the political map of the region. We can forecast Saddam's downfall even now. It might take 1 month, 2 months or longer -- that is not important. We know that this regime is on a downward slope and its destruction is imminent. If you study history, 1 or 2 months, 1 or 2 years are very short periods of time. The main point in studying history is to note whether a movement is weakening and deteriorating or not. In this century, we can see the downward slope of this regime. Of course, we pray and hope that with the continuation of our victories, this downfall will be brought closer. We are aware of what we are doing. One of our strategic aims is helping Saddam's downfall. We cannot stop our efforts as long as this savage and bloodthirsty regime subservient to superpowers exists in the region. We believe that the region will not enjoy peace and prosperity.

On the other hand, among the region's reactionary countries, this revolution will have an effect, especially among their deprived masses. In connection with the Persian Gulf, we feel that all the duped people who gathered around Saddam and supported him, those whose ships emptied their goods in Iraq, will come to realize the results of their satanic deeds. If they have any foresight, they will know that they are forced to come to terms with the powerful and strong Iran which relies on Islam and live alongside Iran and increase their distance from the superpowers, especially America.

TEHRAN ELABORATES ON DEMANDS FOR ENDING WAR

GF311720 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 30 May 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The War and the Just Position of the Islamic Republic of Iran"]

[Text] Dear listeners, ever since the first day of the Ba'thist Iraqi regime's onslaught against our country, the Islamic Republic of Iran has insisted on its just and determined position, defending it persistently. The pro-Zionist Ba'thist Iraqi regime, on the other hand, has always been reluctant to accept the just and determined position of the Islamic Republic regardless of the fact that it attacked our homeland. Nevertheless, the lapse of 20 months since the beginning of the war and the liberation of Khorramshahr have made it clear to everyone that the Islamic Republic will be victorious and that the fall of the Saddam regime will be achieved. In fact political circles around the world agree that Saddam will become a victim of the conspiracy hatched by imperialism. Nevertheless, after conquering Khorramshahr, the Islamic fighters informed the world peoples [words indistinct] thus confirming their just position once more.

The victory achieved by the Islamic fighters has not only foiled political and military equations [as heard] in the region but also brought to light a number of very important points [words indistinct] which have been kept concealed to date due to the widespread propaganda embarked upon by international imperialism and its servants. The realities that have come to light uncovered the crimes committed by Saddam and U.S. imperialism. This, in turn, encouraged the Islamic Republic to insist on its just position, one that it has been maintaining from the beginning. We therefore demand that Saddam be tried internationally as a war criminal and for committing treachery against Iraqi Muslims and other Muslims of the Arab world. The trial of Saddam, who launched an imperialist and Zionist attack on the Islamic country of a people who rid themselves of the yoke of international imperialism and of dictatorship only recently, is only one of the most moderate demands of the Islamic Republic.

Iran will never abandon this just and humane wish. In fact, it made it known 20 months ago that it would not conpromise on this demand. Insisting on this demand will prevent ruffians in the future, who have no respect for international boundaries or for the right of countries to territorial integrity and independence, from insolently attempting to attack foreign lands as in the case of Saddam. Therefore, trying Saddam for his aggressive moves violating international law will be the first step taken in this direction.

Another point the Islamic Republic insists on constitutes a true response to the political and diplomatic activities embarked upon by imperialism and compromising Arab countries. Imperialism and compromising Arab countries are moving to lure Iran into accepting a compromise through regional and political plots. The Islamic Republic's determined position, however, is that the war should be prolonged until the Ba'thist aggressors are expelled from all the occupied Islamic land of Iran.

It will be recalled that a considerable amount of land in the west of our homeland is still occupied by pro-Saddam elements. Expelling the aggressors from our land is one of our undeniable rights. This legal right orders us to expel the aggressive enemy from our homeland, establish the defense of our country within our internationally recognized borders and continue the war until we attain a position whereby we can protect ourselves from attack by the aggressive regime.

We cannot tolerate the shelling of a number of our cities and towns every day by long-range Iraqi artillery. We cannot continue to witness the burning and destruction of homes, mosques, hospitals and schools and the martyrdom or wounding and maiming of our innocent civilians in Khorramshahr, Dezful, Ahvaz, Abadan and other cities because of giant missiles launched by aggressive Saddam.

Another point the Islamic Republic insists upon is the return of the Iraqi people who have been expelled from Iraq to Iran. These people were expelled from Iraq to Iran barefoot by the Ba'thists after they were dragged out of their homes and property in the cold of winter and the heat of summer. The number of these who have sought refuge in Iran after being banished from Iraq totals 120,000 -- all of them Iraqi nationals. This ugly move by Saddam, in other words this crime committed by him, is part of his endeavor aimed at pushing the Islamic Republic into an impasse.

Through its savage attacks, the criminal Ba'thist Iraqi regime has caused extensive damage to the Iranian Government and people. This regime has destroyed industrial, commerical and production centers in the southern and western sectors of Iran, burned cultivated fields, vineyards, gardens, villages and districts and killed our innocent and poor people. In view of all this, Iran is insisting on its demand for compensation. In fact, it insists on this demand as one of the conditions for ending the war.

We shall get this right. That is, we shall get full compensation from Saddam's Ba'thist regime for the damage caused by the war. That we receive war compensation from the criminal Ba'thist Iraqi regime proves that our position regarding the defense of our country, which has been subjected to occupation by the Ba'thist aggressors, is justified. [sentence as heard] During the course of the imposed war, the Islamic Republic has witnessed tens of thousands of martyrs and wounded and a similar number of war victims who have sought refuge in other cities after being forced to leave their homes. The overthrow of Saddam and Iraq's Zionist Ba'thists is acceptable compensation for these masses.

Overthrowing Saddam is the undeniable right of the Muslim peoples of Iran and Iraq. We therefore hope that the people of the world will understand why the Islamic Republic of Iran insists on its just position and demands and condemn the crime committed by the Ba'thist Iraqi regime and mercenary Saddam. The people of the world should take all these facts into consideration and understand that the Muslim and revolutionary people of Iran have arisen against international oppressors and their local and regional lackeys in order to get their legitimate rights and will never yield no matter what the conditions are. They will continue their struggle until they get their legitimate rights and do away with servants like Saddam. Thus they will teach a lesson to the rest of the rulers who serve international oppressors that oppressing and attacking an independent Muslim community will result in nothing but defeat.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 927-930

927: 28 May Report

LD281740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 82

[Communique No 927 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. While extending congratulations on the birthday of Karbala's courageous flagbearer Abolfazl, peace be upon him, a report on fighting on the fronts of the war between right and wrong is hereby brought to the attention of the Muslim and struggling nation of Iran: At 1023 this morning, two aggressive Iraqi planes were downed near Abadan by our fighter planes and the antiaircraft units of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The pilot of one of the above-mentioned planes was captured by our forces. Again we would like to acknowledge the round-the-clock efforts of the fighter pilots, the powerful and indefatiguable transport pilots and all the personnel of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran, supported by their struggling brothers, who played an admirable role in the victorious Jerusalem Operation [bayt al-moqaddas].

On the Khorramshahr fronts during the past 24 hours, confrontation and exchange of fire continued. Our victorious forces, maintaining the upper hand, defended their newly acquired positions and opened intense fire on positions occupied by the Saddamist forces, thus foiling the enemy's activities and inflicting considerable damages and casualties on them. On the other side of the Arvand Rud, a fuel tank was set on fire and a number of Iraqi forces were killed.

The city of Abadan suffered several martyrs and wounded during the past 24 hours because of heavy-weapon fire by Saddamist forces. Several residential areas of this city were demolished.

In the operational region in the west of our country, our brave combatants destroyed some of the enemy's equipment and positions by artillery and mortar fire and a number of Saddamists were killed or wounded.

A group of fighters from the irregular tribal warfare units, penetrated enemy positions in a region between Sumar and Naftshahr. In a surprise attack, they destroyed an enemy vehicle carrying Iraqi officers. As a result, a number of the enemy were killed and the others were captured by our forces.

Due to the fire of our units in (Khanom Sheykhan), five enemy trenches were destroyed and their crews were killed.

Also, a team of combatants infiltrated enemy positions in the Nazareh region and destroyed two guns, one vehicle and several combat supply depots.

As a result of artillery fire on enemy positions in Toveyleh, inside Iraq, an enemy assembly point was destroyed and 30 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded.

Yesterday, seven Iraqi military personnel reported to the forces of Islam in one of the western points of the country and asked for asylum.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

928: 29 May Report

LD291750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 May 82

[Communique No 928 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. With highest greetings and congratulations on the auspicious birthday of the fourth star of the imamate, Imam Sajjad, His Holiness Zeynolabedin, peace be upon him. To the master of the era, the imam mahdi, and his true deputy Imam Khomeyni, the great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and to the noble nation of Iran. Here are the results of the battles and sacrifices by the personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the situation on the imposed warfronts:

The victorious and able forces of Islam on the southern fronts maintain their land and air superiority, the initiative and complete domination over the defeated forces of Iraq. They continue to further consolidate their positions and open fire on the Saddamists' positions. Having levelled Iraqi positions across the border, our forces inflicted considerable losses and casualties on the enemy.

Yesterday exchanges of fire continued between our forces and the enemy along the western fronts, from Salehabad to Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Marivan. The brave army combatants, the valiants of the irregular units and the gendarmerie stationed in their protective regions silenced enemy fire, destroyed a number of Iraqi supply tents and bunkers and killed a number of Saddamists.

The Iraqi losses and casualty figures in Harginah and Bani Ballut regions on the Marivan front were comparatively heavy.

During exchanges of fire on the Arvand Rud [Shatt al-'Arab] front, the gendarmerie valiants mounted fire on Saddamist positions across the Arvand Rud, setting fire to an enemy headquarters, killing or injuring 20 Iraqi Ba'thists. The gendarmerie combatants also prevented enemy movement on the Al-Faw-Basrah axis.

During their operations yesterday, the air defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran repulsed any attempts by Iraqi aggressor aircraft to violate our country's airspace in the south and the west. They forced the Iraqi fighter aircraft to flee.

Yesterday Saddam's mercenaries, these criminals of history, brought Abadan's residential quarters under heavy-weapon fire. During the Iraqi shelling of Abadan a number of housing units were destroyed and a number of the inhabitants were martyred or injured.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

929: 30 May Report

LD301730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 May 82

[Communique No 929 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. At 1447 today, an aggressive enemy plane was shot down by a fighter aircraft of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Abadan sector.

During the past 24 hours, sporadic exchange of fire continued in the operational areas covered by the Jerusalem Operation [bayt al-moqaddas]. While maintaining firepower superiority, our forces retained the initiative. Exchange of fire continued on the banks of the Arvand Rud; our forces brought enemy positions on the other side of the Arvand Rud under fire, destroying a fuel tank, two engineering vehicles and ten trenches and foxholes. Several Iraqis were killed. During another operation in the same region, heavy-weapon fire by the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed 7 enemy trenches and foxholes and killed or wounded more than 30 enemy personnel.

Yesterday as a result of enemy mortar fire, a number of Abadan's residential areas were wrecked. One hospital was damaged and several of our compatriots were wounded.

In the operational sectors in the west, our combative forces inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy on all fronts. In the (Hejran) sector, gendarmerie units brought enemy positions under fire, destroying 14 enemy trenches and foxholes and killing 25 enemy personnel. On one of the fronts in that sector, an enemy mortar was destroyed.

Also, one of our patrol groups penetrated enemy positions in the (Ban Sheytan) sector and brought the enemy base in that sector under heavy fire. The patrol destroyed one cannon, a number of vehicles and quantities of enemy ammunition, and killed or injured several Saddamists.

On the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Gilan-e Gharb axes, exchange of fire continued. Our forces defended the positions and sectors in their charge.

On the various fronts in the Marivan sector, the forces of Islam enjoyed firepower superiority. As the result of our forces' fire on enemy positions, a Saddamist ammunition dump was destroyed in the Halabcheh sector and a number of enemy vehicles were set alight on the Diyareh road.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

930: 31 May Report

LD311810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 May 82

[Communique No 930 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The results of the battle and self-sacrifices of the devotees of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the situation on the battlefronts are brought to the attention of the beloved compatriots:

Yesterday fighting and exchanges of heavy-weapon and artillery fire continued on most of the southern fronts. The exchanges of fire were more intense in the Shalamcheh area. The forces of Islam enjoyed fire superiority on all fronts. Our strong and victorious combatants guarded their defensive positions and fortifications, foiled the movements and traffic of the forces of the aggressive Iraqi Army and inflicted losses and casualties on the Saddamists.

The heroes of the gendarmerie on the Abadan front fired on the Saddamists' positions on the banks of the Arvand Rud. Our heroes stopped the movement of the Iraqi forces on the Al-Faw-Basrah axis, silenced the enemy's fire and destroyed 11 trenches.

In the past 24 hours the combatants of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran opened artillery and mortar fire on the Saddamists' positions on the Salehabad, Sumar, Gilan-e Gharb and Sar-e Pol-e Zahab fronts. Our combatants silenced the enemy's fire, stopped their movements and managed to destroy several enemy trenches and foxholes, their supply and logistic point and several trucks, while killing a number of the Iraqi froces.

Exchanges of fire also continued in the areas guarded by the heroes of the tribal irregulars and the gendarmerie.

On the Marivan front the heavy-artillery fire of the combatants of the ground forces inflicted losses and damage on the positions of the Iraqi forces in the Tawilah and Panjwin area in Iraq. Two ammunition dumps and several ammunition piles of the Saddamists were destroyed and a number of their servicemen were also killed.

In the Paveh area our forces destroyed one ammunition dump of the Saddamists.

As in the past day Abadan's residential areas came under the long-range artillery fire of the Saddamists, which resulted in some losses and damage.

In the past 24 hours any air aggression made by the Saddamist forces in the battle zones of the west and south of the country was foiled by the fire of the air defense units of our forces.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

RED ALERTS ANNOUNCED IN BUSHEHR PROVINCE

30 May Alert

GF301148 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1140 GMT 30 May 82

[Text] Dear listeners: According to a report, a red alert condition has been declared for Bushehr Province. Our dear listeners are requested to comply with and respect the red alert condition. [sound of siren]

1 June Alert

GF010609 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 0605 GMT 1 Jun 82

[Text] Dear listeners: According to a report, at this moment a red alert condition is declared for the Bushehr Province. Our dear listeners are requested to comply with and respect the red alert condition. [sound of siren]

KHOMEYNI 'SCOFFS' AT U.S. STATEMENT ON THREAT

LD292010 Tehran IRNA in English 1941 GMT 29 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 29 May (IRNA) -- The leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Imam Khomeyni, today said to a group of members of the country's economic mobilisation headquarters that today foreign countries were in fact imposing sanctions against Iran but that such sanctions had in fact turned out to be a blessing in disguise.

He said the economic sanctions against the country had helped the Iranian people to discover their potential in order to stand on their own feet without relying on foreign resources. The imam noted also that Iran's successful thrust against the invading enemy troops in the Persian Gulf port city of Khorramshahr had impelled the world to acknowledge the country as a powerful force in the world.

The imam also scoffed at the statement of U.S. officials about U.S. interests being threatened in the Persian Gulf. Said he: "Yes, you used to be after your own interests (?here). No more, however. We have taken them back from your hands...."

VELAYATI SCORES HAIG REMARKS ON PERSIAN GULF

LD281840 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 82

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, in Tehran on 28 May, prior to his departure for the Nonaligned Foreign Ministers Conference in Cuba -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Regarding General Haig's [words indistinct] on the Persian Gulf, that it should enjoy stability. (?This) is a direct or indirect attempt at intervention. As foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, what is your opinion of this statement?

[Answer] The Americans, or rather the U.S. administration, has already undertaken not to interfere in Iran's internal affairs. The U.S. administration undertook this in connection with the Algiers declaration to which it is a signatory. What Mr Haig said is actually interference in the internal affairs of the region's states, including Iran as the most powerful country in the region. The security of the Persian Gulf region is the responsibility of the littoral states. The Islamic states in the Persian Gulf, we hope and expect, are mature enough to be able to recognize their own interests, without needing to seek interference from the superpowers.

There are no grounds for America's claim that it has interests here. If it is a question of interests in the region, these interests belong to the region's states. We hope the region's states will succeed in reaching an understanding between themselves, through an objective approach and proper recognition of their enemies, in order to confront their mutual enemies, headed by America and its agent in the region, the regime occupying Palestine. We hope they will not submit to humiliating agreements, such as Camp David and the Fahd plan. We hope they will also recognize, as it justly deserves, that the only option to confront Israel is an armed struggle under the banner of Islam and the unity of expression of Muslims.

VELAYATI ON ISRAEL'S ALLEGED ARMS SALES

LD281906 Tehran IRNA in English 1708 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 28 May (IRNA) -- Foreign ministers of the non-aligned nations are to sit in a session in Havana shortly in order to discuss an agenda whose principal topic is the question of finding a country other than Iraq to host the forthcoming non-aligned summit conference.

The Iranian minister of foreign affairs, Dr. Velayati, who left Tehran to [as received] Havana today, said at Tehran Mehrabad Airport that the countries of the Non-aligned Movement were gradually taking a realistic look at the situation and added that such countries should not agree to holding a meeting in the capital of "a regime which has no promise of future stability."

Asked about Haig's comments this week about the situation in the Persian Gulf and America's avowed concern for its interests in the region, he said if there are interests in the region these belong to the countries of the region and not to the United States. Asked also to comment on the statement of the defence minister of the regime occuping Al-Quds, Ari'el Sharon, about an alleged arms sale to Iran, he said: "we expected to hear such false allegations... we hardly need to argue about or to deny a silly claim like that." He said by signing the Camp David agreement Egypt had turned to the regime occupying Al-Quds and that it rushed all kinds of aid to the Baghdad regime in its war against Iran and that it was quite probable that the Al-Quds regime might have aided Baghdad in order to keep it from collapsing.

The Iranian foreign minister is also to participate in an extraordinary session of the United Nations in New York for disarmament. On his way to Havana, Dr. Velayati will stop over in Madrid to confer with his Spanish counterpart.

ENVOY TO UN DENIES ISRAELI, SOVIET MILITARY AID

LD281804 Tehran IRNA in English 1634 GMT 28 May 82

[Text] Washington, 28 May (IRNA) -- The Iranian ambassador and permanent representative in the United Nations, Dr. Seyyed Raja'i Khorasani, in an interview with the CBS network said that liberating Jerusalem was Iran's main objective and that the United States was responsible for all problems in the Middle East. He recalled that if other Muslims of the region and Iranians were friends and united they could form a single front against their common enemy, the Zionist regime. Raja'i added that Jerusalem was still under the occupation of the Zionist regime and that all the Muslims of the region were willing to liberate it. If Haig was (?aware) of Iran's determination and wanted to establish peace in the region, said Raja'i Khorasani, instead of creating unity among the U.S. and countries of the region Haig should give up interfering in the affairs of the region." We are Muslims and the Muslim nations of the region can form a single front," he stressed.

He then said that Iran has no designs on Iraqi territory and that although Iran suffered heavy damages it would continue to gain its legitimate rights.

Then in his interview the Iranian diplomat referred to the crimes of Saddam and said that Saddam had killed many Iranians and that thousands have lost their limbs and homes under the artillery fire of Iraq. He said that the Iraqi nation did not want Saddam and that there were 120,000 Iraqi refugees in Iran, who should be able to return to their country.

He referred to the demonstrations against Saddam in some Iraqi cities, including An-Najaf, As-Sulaymaniyah and [word indistinct], as proof of Saddam's unpopularity.

Raja'i denied Iran was receiving any aid from the Zionist regime and said these specious reports were being spread only to poison international opinion against the Islamic revolution of Iran.

Concerning alleged military aid by the Soviet Union to Iran, Raja'i said that Iran provided for its needs through the free market and had received no military aid from the Soviet Union. "Fortunately," he added, "in the Bostan operations Iran was able to capture much Soviet military equipments from the Iraqis which would last for three months."

KHOMEYNI ADDRESSES OIL MINISTER, EMPLOYEES

LD201410 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 May 82

[Speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni to oil industry employees and the minister of petroleum at Hoseyniyeh Jamaran on 30 May -- recorded -- duration 70 minutes]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. You dear friends who have gathered here are aimed at by criminals more than any other group.

I would like to mention a few points here. Now that your enemy and Islam's enemy is taking his last steps and breathing his last breath following our victories, we see that the superpowers are frightened. These enemies either threaten us, threaten you or they sometimes mobilize the region against us, our nation and against you. This is because they are frightened of the power of Islam, this unity which has come about in Iran and the order which has been created within different groups in this nation.

The highest organization aimed at by the criminals is the oil industry, its employees and managers. You should note that protecting this country and protecting Islam in the region depends on your commitment to Islam and your country. These criminals, hypocrites and corrupted ones have placed infiltrating you and corrupting you high on the list of their plots and plans. We hope that, just as you have stood against all enemies up to now, you employees, managers and all those who work in the industry which is the lifeline of the nation will remain aware of the tricks of these people.

You should know that every time [words indistinct] they try to create a rift, a plot, you should know that will be the day they try to bring you under the domination of the enemies of Islam and make you their slaves. If the U.S. Government at this juncture claims that it has friends or interests in the region, one should find out what they are talking about, who these friends are, who they were, what these interests in the region are, what they will be. They do have friends. They have such friends that are mercenaries who are not paid but rather these mercenaries pay wages themselves. They pour the wealth and interests of their countries at the feet of the superpowers and protect their interests. This is what is meant by interests, interests which should be protected or the lifeline of these powers will be cut. Their friends are those who ensure their lives by staying in power.

We would like to advise our neighboring Islamic countries and their leaders who think they are Muslims that what the United States means by having friends and interests and by saying that these friends and interests are threatened by Islam and the Islamic Iran, is the rich resources of the Islamic countries and underground resources of Islamic countries which are important areas for them.

You are those friends, some of you who serve the United States, and in addition to this service you present them with your resources as well.

The nation or Iran, the Government of Iran with all the facilities at their disposal would like to relieve you of this burden of disgrace. They want to take all your riches and resources which should be used in the interests of your nations and to repair your country for free. They are deceiving you. They think that they are making you walk into the same trap that Saddam did so that they might be able to save themselves from the problems created for them by Islam. Nations realize that Islam is dearer and more beneficial for them than anything else, both in this world and the next. [shouts of "God is great"]

Nations should be aware of this, the nations should know. These nations have suffered torture, mental and physical, these are sinking in poverty and deprivation while their resources and their black gold are being pushed down the throats of others. Nations know that accepting the Islamic Republic means throwing foreign forces out and ending the domination of atheists, getting rid of them.

It is the governments which should be cautioned. These governments should pay attention to the present regime in Iran and see whether their situation is better or whether it is better to change and have a system similar to Iran. They should note that in Iran today the government, the nation, the Majlis, the armed forces, the Guards Corps and the rest act as one organization and they all support each other. If the government has a problem the nation helps to solve it.

When the war was imposed on us along our borders, this nation and the employees of oil industry and other organizations announced their support. Just as in the past when oil industry employees turned the oil taps off and became victorious, today they have turned them on and have become victorious. If the government has a problem these youths and this nation -- old and young, men and women -- try to solve it. You, the governments outside Iran, should realize that the superpowers created so many problems for us, imposed an economic embargo on us and it was the help of this nation that foiled all these conspiracies.

If you create the same situation, if your nation treats you the way the Iranian nation treats the Government of Iran, then all your power will be concentrated in one place to help you stand against the superpowers. You should be masters, not servants. You should serve your nations and Islam. You should be masters of all-powerful governments. Now, would you prefer this or would you prefer to sever all your connections with your people, say goodbye to Islam and oppose a republic which is Islamic and intends to remain free and independent? If you oppose the latter, then you will remain abject and under the domination of superpowers.

When an issue is raised which is against their interests they announce that they have friends and interests. What interests can the United States have here other than your rich resources? What friends can the United States have here other than those who serve it in the name of friendship? The United States does not want friends, it needs servants. The United States wants servants who will present to them the interests of their own people and at the same time bring disgrace for themselves and bear it. Our government and our nation are standing against any efforts at domination and as long as we have any strength we will oppose it.

The great powers with all their satanic bonds will be disgraced. Right from the beginning of the revolution until the present victories, whatever we have seen is nothing short of a miracle. You can also observe that in this movement, in this opposition that Iran initiated against a monarchical regime with all its (?grandeur) and all those who enjoyed power and were supported by powerful governments. Which power on earth could come from the country and uproot such a regime, which was 2,500-years old and equipped with the most modern weaponry and arms?

Which power could achieve victory today on the battlefronts against all such military equipment? Which great force could inspire such awe in their hearts in this manner so that they surrender themselves (?immediately), in spite of the fact that they were in their shelters with all their arms and equipment? Your brothers and (?these people stormed) them in the deserts and from the deserts. What was it that instilled such fear in them that they threw down their arms at once and presented them [to us] and, those who could, threw themselves (?on the ground) and those who were against it or [words indistinct] and those who could not do so were taken prisoner and surrendered themselves?

My brothers, observe what you have done and now you should continue to perform the divine mission. Observe that you have the lifeline of the superpowers and the East and West in your hands and your enemies, whose real objective is you, yourselves, your hands and the hands of the powerful ones, your power beat them back and just see how their [word indistinct] masses are working against you everyday. Employees of the oil industry and all the workers of this black gold should know that they are (?envious) of you and they want this country to be defeated; one of their aims is to create a rift here. Be vigilant because if, God forbid, a rift is created here your bondage will return. We and you and our entire nation were under the domination of the great powers in those days due to that tyrannical regime. They were the lords of everything and treated us as ordinary workers. Your forceful hands, your intense faith sent them to their proper place, to hell, and today by the grace of God you, yourselves, have the power in your hands; you have all the authority in your hands and you have personally foiled all their plots. This very economic embargo was a blessing in disguise, a Heaven-sent blessing which tapped the creativity of thought of our intelligentsia and, praise be to God, we are on the road of self-sufficiency.

I will now end my speech and I pray for you that God the great and almighty should protect this power of Islam and God the great and almighty may safeguard your acumen and may destroy the enemies of our nation and may foil their (?conspiracies) and safety, good fortune, prestige and greatness may be yours, my friends, and may be the destiny of the Islamic nations. May the blessings of God be upon you. [shouts of "You are my soul Khomeyni!]

MAJLIS DEBATES COMPETENCE OF BEHZAD NABAVI

GF310905 [Editorial Report] The Majlis session was unheard from Tehran Domestic Service in Persian on 31 May due to severe static until reception improved at 0720 GMT, when Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani was heard asking the deputies to vote on the basis of the Islamic rather than the political aspect.

A deputy whose name could not be ascertained came to the podium and spoke in favor of Minister of State for Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi and his competence as a minister. He recalled Behzad Nabavi's important role during the hostage crisis and his successful maneuvering regarding the same, as well as his dynamic part in the Islamic revolution for which he had to suffer imprisonment as well. He said that Nabavi's integrity is unquestionable.

At 0761, an unidentified deputy enunciated the requisites for a minister, saying that Behzad Nabavi does not measure up to the criterion for an Islamic minister, which has created opposition against him. A letter addressed by Nabavi to the Majlis was read aloud, but its text could not be heard due to poor reception.

Another deputy spoke in favor of Behzad Nabavi, his solution of the hostage issue, which was lauded by international media, an issue which had been deliberately exacerbated by Bani-Sadr. If Bezhad Nabavi is at fault, he added, it is due to the present fluid situation in the country caused by the war and the concomitant economic problems.

Deputy (Bayat) drew the house's attention to the high opinion the martyr Raja'i had of Mr Nabavi and the intense faith he had for him and his service to the cause of the revolution. He said that the (?no-confidence) motion should be withdrawn.

The speaker of the Majlis then announced that the session should adjourn and meet again at 1400 [1130 GMT].

Portfolio Changes Nominated

LD311736 Tehran IRNA in English 0932 GMT 31 May 82

[Text] Tehran, 30 May (IRNA) -- In the open (?session) of the Majlis this morning Prime Minister Musavi nominated Behzad Nabavi as minister of heavy industries and Gholamreza Aqazadeh as minister of state for executive affairs. Aqazadeh would then succeed Nabavi in his office.

The first speaker of the session, which was chaired by Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani, was the deputy from Zabol, Sistan va Baluchestan Province, Gholam 'Ali Shahraki, who said that the Islamic revolution of Iran was neither Eastern nor Western because if it were Western it would not have become the target of the attacks of the United States and that the U.S. would not have hatched a whole host of plots against it. If it had been inclined towards the East, he added, the oppressed Iranian villagers in southwestern part of the country in Sistan va Baluchestan Province would not have come under the savage attacks of Soviet MiG's and helicopters.

The Zabol deputy further stressed that so far all plots engineered by the U.S. against the Islamic revolution of Iran have resulted in outright failure and now the revolution was about to overcome one of the greatest plots of the U.S., the Iraqi imposed war.

He said that war has been imposed on the two Muslim nations of Iran and Iraq, on the orders of the U.S. through Saddam and with the support of the reactionary rulers of the region. For the past twenty months the southern and western parts of Iran had been put on fire but now this fire had reached Saddam and this stooge of imperialism would soon be sent to the waste basket of history, he said.

In the continuation of his speech, commenting on the support given to Saddam by the reactionary rulers of the region, Shahraki said that such support did not stem from sympathy for Saddam, but rather the reactionary rulers were helping Saddam on the orders of their master, the U.S., and were providing aid to Saddam because they feared their Muslim nations. He then warned the Muslim nations of the region of possible pro-U.S. coup d'etats which would be meant only [at] replacing one agent by another, and called on them to think of laying the foundations for an Islamic Republic and to battle deviated tendencies.

The other speaker of the session was the deputy from Dezful, Khuzestan Province, Ahmad Zahrani, who talked about the liberation of the port city of Khorramshahr and added that now the Islamic forces of Iran had entered a new era for greater missions and actions. He stressed that the imperialist countries and their agents must now reconsider their behaviour; otherwise they would be working for their own destruction and would be faced with the righteous wrath of the imam and the combatant Muslim nation of Iran.

He pointed out that the Iranian people were fully informed that the Iraqi regime had bombarded Iranian cities and populated areas with the Mirage fighter bombers provided by France and Soviet MiG's and had financed their war with the money provided by pro-American reactionary governments in the region. "If these governments do not cease supporting Saddam, who is in the agony of death, tomorrow they will kneel down before the will of God," he added.

In today's session two bills were submitted to the Majlis by the government. One of the bills dealt with the exchange of goods between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic for a period of tens years covering 1982 and 1991. The other bill was concerning the agreement for economic, industrial and technical cooperation beteen the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkey.

Changes Approved

LD311810 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 May 82

[Excerpt] Continuing this morning's open session of the Majlis after a 2-hour recess, the session came to order again this afternoon under the chairmanship of Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani and continued the debate relating to the ministers introduced to the Majlis. After speeches by several deputies in favor and against, as well as remarks by Prime Minister Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, an open ballot was conducted. As a result, Mr Behzad Nabavi was approved as minister for heavy industry with 127 votes in favor, 27 against and 15 abstentions, and Mr Gholamreza Aqazadeh was approved as minister of state for executive affairs with 117 votes in favor, 7 against and 37 abstentions.

Following deputies' speeches for and against the proposed appointments, Prime Minister Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi replied in his remarks to points raised by the deputies and described the Majlis' discussions as good for both the government and the Majlis.

The prime minister said: Whatever step we want to take in favor of the deprived, there are some people who would say this is communism. Since our Constitution has envisaged such an institution as the Council of Guardians to prevent deviations and since we are in a situation now requiring that we take steps to vindicate the rights of the deprived -- the people, owing to their generosity and their love and enthusiasm for Islam and the imam, are all defenders of the revolution, and one must work for such people -- in these circumstances, if we were accused of such things we would no longer be able to take any steps in that direction. [sentence as heard]

Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi added: In the Cabinet we debate on the imperatives; we are not engaged in dealing with the exegesis of divine law. I assure you that there is no room in the Cabinet for any tendency toward the right or the left.

Noting the importance to the country of setting heavy industry in motion, the prime minister pointed out the need for proper management. Describing the existing bottlenecks in heavy industry, including the problems of management, raw materials and legal, financial and political problems, he regarded Mr Behzad Navavi as suitable for the post of minister for heavy industry.

Addressing the deputies, the prime minister said in conclusion: Your vote is very important to the government, and it will encourage the government to provide greater service and effort in favor of the Islamic revolution.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENTS WITH SYRIA -- Damascus, 31 May (IRNA) -- Commercial agreements in the field of exchange of chemical products, textiles, electrical equipment, grains, leather, wool and tobacco were signed at the conclusion of the Iranian commerical delegation's trip to Syria led by Ghanimi-Fard, deputy minister of commerce. Agreements on setting up a fair of Iranian and Syrian products in Damascus and Tehran, and the establishment of a shipping line were also signed. The Iranian delegation, during their stay, met with some Syrian officials and a Syrian mufti as well as participating in mass prayers. The Iranian delegation left Damascus for Tehran yesterday after their one week stay in Syria. [Text] [Tehran IRNA in English 0948 GMT 31 May 82 LD]